



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

Division of Workers' Compensation - Medical Fee Dispute Resolution (MS-48)

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MEDICAL FEE DISPUTE RESOLUTION FINDINGS AND DECISION

GENERAL INFORMATION

Requestor Name

Northwest Texas Hospital

Respondent Name

New Hampshire Insurance Co

MFDR Tracking Number

M4-15-3772-01

Carrier's Austin Representative

Box Number 19

MFDR Date Received

July 17, 2015

REQUESTOR'S POSITION SUMMARY

Requestor's Position Summary: "This claim was underpaid per the workers comp APC pricer in the amount of \$90.32."

Amount in Dispute: \$90.32

RESPONDENT'S POSITION SUMMARY

Respondent's Position Summary: The Division placed a copy of the Medical Fee Dispute Resolution request in the insurance carrier's Austin representative box, which was acknowledged received on July 29, 2015. The insurance carrier did not submit a response for consideration in this review. Per 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307(d)(1), "If the Division does not receive the response information within 14 calendar days of the dispute notification, then the Division may base its decision on the available information." Accordingly, this decision is based on the available information.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Dates of Service	Disputed Services	Amount In Dispute	Amount Due
January 28, 2015	73560 – LT, 99283	\$90.32	\$90.32

FINDINGS AND DECISION

This medical fee dispute is decided pursuant to Texas Labor Code §413.031 and all applicable, adopted rules of the Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation.

Background

- 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307 sets out the procedures for resolving medical fee disputes.
- 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.403 sets out the acute care hospital fee guideline for outpatient services.
- The insurance carrier reduced payment for the disputed services with the following claim adjustment codes:
 - 97 – Payment adjusted because the benefit for this service is included in the payment/allowance for another service/procedure that has already been adjudicated

- 243 – The charge for this procedure was not paid since the value of this procedure is included/bundled within the value of another procedure performed
- 193 – Original payment decision is being maintained

Issues

1. What is the applicable rule for determining reimbursement for the disputed services?
2. What is the recommended payment amount for the services in dispute?
3. Is the requestor entitled to additional reimbursement?

Findings

1. This dispute relates to outpatient hospital facility services with reimbursement subject to the provisions of 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.403, which requires that the reimbursement calculation used for establishing the maximum allowable reimbursement (MAR) shall be the Medicare facility specific amount, including outlier payment amounts, determined by applying the most recently adopted and effective Medicare Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS) reimbursement formula and factors as published annually in the Federal Register with the application of minimal modifications as set forth in the rule. Per §134.403(f)(1), the sum of the Medicare facility specific reimbursement amount and any applicable outlier payment amount shall be multiplied by 200 percent, unless a facility or surgical implant provider requests separate reimbursement of implantables. Review of the submitted documentation finds that separate reimbursement for implantables was not requested.
2. Under the Medicare Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS), each billed service is assigned an Ambulatory Payment Classification (APC) based on the procedure code used, the supporting documentation and the other services that appear on the bill. A payment rate is established for each APC. Depending on the services provided, hospitals may be paid for more than one APC per encounter. Payment for ancillary and supportive items and services, including services that are billed without procedure codes, is packaged into payment for the primary service. A full list of APCs is published quarterly in the OPPS final rules which are publicly available through the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) website. Reimbursement for the disputed services is calculated as follows:
 - Procedure code 73560 has a status indicator of Q1, which denotes STVX-packaged codes; payment for these services is packaged into the payment for any other procedures with status indicators S, T, V, or X performed on the same date. This code may be separately payable only if no other such procedures are reported for the same date.
 - Procedure code 99283 has a status indicator of V, which denotes a clinic or emergency department visit paid under OPPS with separate APC payment. These services are classified under APC 0614, which, per OPPS Addendum A, has a payment rate of \$198.39. This amount multiplied by 60% yields an unadjusted labor-related amount of \$119.03. This amount multiplied by the annual wage index for this facility of 0.8074 yields an adjusted labor-related amount of \$96.10. The non-labor related portion is 40% of the APC rate or \$79.36. The sum of the labor and non-labor related amounts is \$175.46. The cost of these services does not exceed the annual fixed-dollar threshold of \$2,775. The outlier payment amount is \$0. The total Medicare facility specific reimbursement amount for this line is \$175.46. This amount multiplied by 200% yields a MAR of \$350.92.
3. The total allowable reimbursement for the services in dispute is \$350.92. The amount previously paid by the insurance carrier is \$245.64. The requestor is seeking additional reimbursement in the amount of \$90.32. This amount is recommended.

Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, the Division finds that the requestor has established that additional reimbursement is due. As a result, the amount ordered is \$90.32.

ORDER

Based upon the documentation submitted by the parties and in accordance with the provisions of Texas Labor Code §413.031, the Division has determined that the requestor is entitled to \$90.32 reimbursement for the disputed services.

Authorized Signature

_____	_____	October , 2015
Signature	Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Officer	Date

OUR RIGHT TO APPEAL

Either party to this medical fee dispute has a right to seek review of this decision in accordance with 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307, effective May 31, 2012, *37 Texas Register 3833*, **applicable to disputes filed on or after June 1, 2012.**

A party seeking review must submit a **Request to Schedule a Benefit Review Conference to Appeal a Medical Fee Dispute Decision** (form **DWC045M**) in accordance with the instructions on the form. The request must be received by the Division within **twenty** days of your receipt of this decision. The request may be faxed, mailed or personally delivered to the Division using the contact information listed on the form or to the field office handling the claim.

The party seeking review of the MFDR decision shall deliver a copy of the request to all other parties involved in the dispute at the same time the request is filed with the Division. **Please include a copy of the *Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Findings and Decision*** together with any other required information specified in 28 Texas Administrative Code §141.1(d).

Si prefiere hablar con una persona en español acerca de ésta correspondencia, favor de llamar a 512-804-4812.